

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-08

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 OMB-01 ACDA-07 /105 W
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O 180332Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8714

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3288

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN

SUBJECT: KOREA AT 31ST UNGA: CORE GROUP MEETING AUGUST 17

REF: (A) USUN 3263; (B) STATE 204787; (C) BRUSSELS 8036;
(D) SEOUL 6360 (NOTAL); (E) USUN 3255

1. SUMMARY: KOREA CORE GROUP MET AT WORKING-LEVEL AUGUST 16
AT BELGIAN MISSION UNDER ROK CHAIRMAN. ALL MEMBERS REPRESENTED
AFTER LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF BELGIAN PROPOSAL (REF C), CORE GROUP
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WITH EXCEPTION OF BELGIUM CONSIDERED IT MORE DESIRABLE TO

PROCEED WITH SUBMISSION OF ITEM, EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM, AND DRAFT RESOLUTION ALL TOGETHER ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 20. CANADA, NEW ZEALAND WERE WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING COSPONSORSHIP, AND BELGIUM, UNDERSTANDABLY, WOULD NEED TO SEEK NEW GUIDANCE. REMAINING SIX UN MEMBERS IN CORE GROUP ALL EXPRESSED READINESS TO COSPONSOR ON AUGUST 20. CANADA HAS AGREED TO HOST AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL MEETING OF POTENTIAL COSPONSORS AT ITS MISSION AT 10:30 A.M., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18. ROK AMBASSADOR WILL LEAD DISCUSSION. END SUMMARY.

2. CORE GROUP DELIBERATED BELGIAN PROPOSAL TO SUBMIT RESOLUTION AND EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM BUT NOT DRAFT RESOLUTION BY AUGUST 21. WHILE THERE WAS SYMPATHY FOR CONSIDERATIONS PRESENTED BY BELGIUM, GENERAL VIEW WAS THAT TO LEAVE DRAFT RESOLUTION OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS FOR AMENDMENT FOR SEVERAL WEEKS PRIOR TO SUBMISSION COULD LEAD TO COMPLICATIONS WHOSE RESOLUTION AMONG COSPONSORS MIGHT PROVE DIFFICULT. WITH REGARD REPORT CONTAINED REF (D) THAT ROK FOREIGN MINISTER PARK DESIRED PROCEED AT "DELIBERATE PACE" IN INTRODUCING FRIENDLY RESOLUTION, ROK MISOFFS ADVISED US PRIVATELY THAT THIS HAD BEEN PARK'S POSITION BEFORE HE HAD LEARNED RESULTS OF AUGUST 16 CORE GROUP MEETING (REF (A)). PARK HAD SUBSEQUENTLY INSTRUCTED ROK OBSERVER OFFICE TO PROCEED WITH SUBMISSION BY AUGUST 21, UNDER PROVISIONS OF RULE 14 OF "RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY." WITH VIEW TO DOWNGRADING SIGNIFICANCE OF NUMBER AND GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF FRIENDLY COSPONSORS ON AUGUST 20, THERE WAS SUGGESTION, THAT INITIAL SUBMISSION MIGHT BE MADE BY ONLY TWO OR THREE MEMBERS OF CORE GROUP (E.G., CANADA, NEW ZEALAND, NETHERLANDS) WITH REMAINDER COMING ABOARD LATER AFTER SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES HAD AGREED TO COSPONSOR. ROK MADE CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT IT PREFERRED AUGUST 20 SUBMISSION TO HAVE AS MANY COSPONSORS AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT REGARD TO FACT THAT THIS TOTAL PREDICTABLY WOULD BE CONSIDERABLY SMALLER THAN THE 24 COUNTRIES NOW COSPONSORING HOSTILE RESOLUTION (SOMALIA HAS JOINED HOSTILE BAND LISTED IN REF E).

3. CANADA EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS OF ITS MISSION TO HOST MEETING OF POTENTIAL FRIENDLY COSPONSORS ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, CONFIDENTIAL

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AT 10:30 A.M. ACCEPTANCES SO FAR HAVE INDICATED THAT THIS MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY GREAT MANY OF 1975 FRIENDLY COSPONSORS PLUS ICELAND, NORWAY, GREECE, TURKEY, AUSTRALIA, AND THE PHILIPPINES AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FIVE ASEAN COUNTRIES. ASEANS MET ON AFTERNOON AUGUST 17 AND CHOSE PHILIPPINES AS THEIR REPRESENTATIVE. THOSE AT MEETING WILL BE PROVIDED FRIENDLY DRAFT TEXT S AND WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO COSPONSOR. CORE GROUP RECOGNIZED,

HOWEVER, THAT BRIEF PERIOD FROM AUGUST 18 THROUGH AUGUST 20 WILL MAKE DECISION ON COSPONSORSHIP BY FRIDAY AUGUST 20 DIFFICULT FOR MANY. ROK AMBASSADOR MOON WILL BE PRINCIPAL SPOKESMAN,

4. AS TO PRESS GUIDANCE, U.S. DREW ON PARA 1 OF REF (B) AND CORE GROUP AGREED TO IT

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE U.S. REACTION TO THE ITEM AND RESOLUTION FOR THE UNGA ON KOREA SUBMITTED YESTERDAY BY THE ALGERIANS AND OTHER TO THE UN?

ANSWER: THE RESOLUTION IS BASED ON A PROPAGANDISTIC AUGUST 5 STATEMENT BY NORTH KOREA ACCUSING THE U.S. OF AGGRESSIVE DESIGNS IN KOREA, IGNORING THE FACT THAT WE HAVE INVITED THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED TO DISCUSS THE EASING OF TENSIONS ON THE PENINSULA. IT INDICATES THE NORTH'S CLEAR INTENTION TO FORCE A CONTENTIOUS AND UNPRODUCTIVE DEBATE ON KOREA. THE RESOLUTION SEEMS DESIGNED TO OBSCURE THE NORTH'S REFUSAL TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE ROKG ON THE FUTURE OF THE PENINSULA, AND ITS FAILURE TO RESUME THE DIALOGUE WITH THE ROKG WHICH BOTH PARTIES AGREED TO IN 1972. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THE SUREST WAY TO PROGRESS ON THE KOREAN QUESTION IS THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS SUCH AS THOSE PROPOSED BY THE SECRETARY IN HIS JULY 22 SPEECH, RATHER THAN THE CONFRONTATION CONTAINED IN THE NORTH KOREAN APPROACH.

QUESTION: ARE WE GOING TO PUT IN OUR OWN RESOLUTION?

ANSWER: WE WOULD PREFER TO AVOID ANOTHER STERILE UN DEBATE, BUT ARE DISCUSSING WITH OTHER INTERESTED COUNTRIES HOW TO MEET THE NORTH KOREAN MOVE.

5. CORE GROUP AGREED THAT, IF QUESTION PUT AT AUGUST 18
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MEETING OF POTENTIAL COSPONSORS AS TO WHY THERE WAS NEED TO SUBMIT ITEM AND RESOLUTION BY AUGUST 21, REPLY COULD BE THAT FOR ALMOST FIVE MONTHS CORE GROUP MEMBERS HAVE BEEN URGING AVOIDANCE OF CONFRONTATION ON KOREA AT 31ST UNGA. TO SUBMIT AFTER AUGUST 21 WOULD REQUIRE INSCRIPTION UNDER RULE 15 OF AN "ADDITIONAL ITEM OF AN IMPORTANT AND URGENT CHARACTER. . ." TO BE OBLIGED TO DESIGNATE OUR ITEM "IMPORTANT AND URGENT" WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH OUR STATED DESIRE TO AVOID CONFRONTATION ON KOREA DURING FORTHCOMING SESSION OF UNGA.

6. POSSIBILITY OF SUBMITTING DRAFT TEXTS ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 21 RATHER THAN FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, WAS DISCUSSED. POINT WAS MADE, HOWEVER, THAT SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL HAD UNDERLINED POSSIBILITY THAT, WITH SATURDAY A NON-WORKING DAY, THERE MIGHT BE THOSE WHO WOULD CLAIM THAT SUBMISSION ON NON-WORKING

DAY COULD ONLY TAKE EFFECT ON NEXT WORKING DAY, AUGUST 23,
TOO LATE FOR INCLUSION UNDER RULE 14.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL UNIFICATION, LOBBYING, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN03288
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760316-0591
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760840/aaaabiym.tel
Line Count: 172
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 USUN NEW YORK 3263, 76 STATE 204787, 76 BRUSSELS 8036, 76 SEOUL 6360, 76 USUN NEW YORK 3255
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 APR 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KOREA AT 31ST UNGA: CORE GROUP MEETING AUGUST 17
TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006